



State of Wyoming Military Department Office of the Adjutant General

*5500 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009-3320
<http://www.wy.ngb.army.mil>*

Oct. 5, 2006

For immediate release

Media contacts:

Deidre Forster (307) 772-5253; cell (307) 631-4153; email deidre.forster@wy.ngb.army.mil.
Master Sgt. Trudy Woodcock (307) 772-5229; email trudy.woodcock@wy.ngb.army.mil.
Spc. Christian Venhuizen, (307) 772-5040; email christian.venhuizen@wy.ngb.army.mil.

HT News

Battery A, 2-300th Field Artillery receive awards

GILLETTE, Wyo. – Citizen Soldiers from Gillette and Douglas with the Wyoming Army National Guard's Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 300th Field Artillery were awarded and presented the Combat Action Badge at their September drill in Guernsey, Wyo.

The Combat Action Badge provides special recognition to Soldiers who personally engage the enemy, or are engaged by the enemy during combat operations.

The 23 Soldiers were awarded the badge for actively engaging or being engaged by the enemy during their 2004 Operation Iraqi Freedom deployment. Most of the Soldiers had more than 10 separate incidents to qualify for this award and some Soldiers had more than 20. "It only takes one incident to qualify for this award," said Capt. Terry Jenkins, Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 300th Field Artillery commander. "The Soldiers were deployed in 2004 to 2005 where they encountered hostile actions during their tour."

While in Iraq, the unit deployed as a Military Police Company and had many missions which included Iraqi police stations, convoy security missions; check points, security detail of the newly formed Iraqi government, building searches, foot patrols and training Iraqi soldiers.

The following Soldiers were presented the award:

HQ Platoon:

Staff Sgt. Shawn Coast, squad leader

1st Platoon

Staff Sgt. John Gutierrez, squad leader

Sgt. Richard Cisneros, team leader

Sgt Timothy Rychecky, gunner

Spc. Lorenzo Sisneros, gunner

2nd Platoon

Sgt. 1st Class Ray Archuleta, squad leader

Sgt. Charles Petty, gunner

Sgt. Jon Rychecky, gunner

3rd Platoon

Sgt. 1st Class Mike Conwell, platoon sergeant

Staff Sgt. Charles Mesko, squad leader

Staff Sgt. Douglas Fenton, team leader

Sgt. Gene Whitted, team leader

Sgt. Donald Duncan, team leader

Sgt. Chris Crispell, team leader

Spc. Matthew Bryant, driver

Spc. Jason Baldwin, driver

Spc. Timothy Haddenham, driver

Spc. Eric Becker, gunner

Spc. Ryan Larsen, gunner

4th Platoon

Capt. Terry Jenkins, platoon leader

Sgt. Cody Mills, team leader

Sgt. Denton Newlin, team leader

Cpl. Robert McKinney, team leader

Sgt. Jimmy Boles, team leader

Sgt. John Franz, driver

Sgt. Travis Obermire, gunner

Spc. Timothy Badwound, gunner

Spc. Eric Saunders, gunner

Mechanics

Staff Sgt. Duane Tutor, motor sergeant

Capt. Terry Jenkins and Sgt. William Ahrndt were also awarded the Army Commendation Medal for exceptional performance during annual training at Dugway Proving Grounds, in Utah, during the month of June.